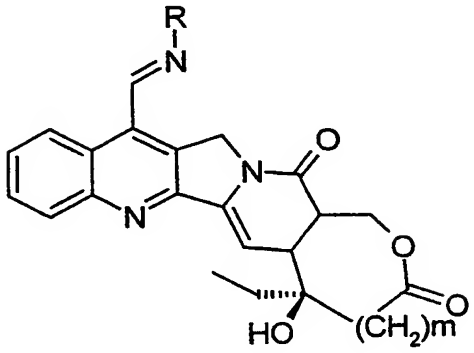
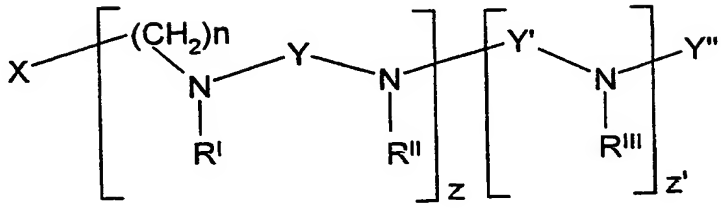
CLAIMS

1. Compounds with general formula (I)



in which

R = 

m is the number 0 or 1;

Z and Z', which can be the same or different, are an integer ranging from 0 to 2;

Y and Y', which can be the same or different, are $(CH_2)n_1$; $(CH_2)n_2$-CH[$NR^{VII}(CH_2)n_4$-NHR^{I}]-$(CH_2)n_3$; CH_2-CH[CH_2-CH_2]$_2$- or $(CH_2)n_2$-N[$(CH_2)n_4$-NHR^{IV}]-$(CH_2)n_3$;

Y" is selected from the group consisting of H; cycloalkyl C_3-C_7; $(CH_2)n_5$-N[CH_2-CH_2]$_2$N-$(CH_2)n_6NHR^{V}$; $(CH_2)n_7$-CH[CH_2- CH_2]$_2NR^{V}$;

X is O, or is a simple bond;

n-n_8, which can be the same or different, are an integer ranging from 0 to 5;

R^{I}, R^{II}, R^{III}, R^{IV}, and R^{V}, which can be the same or different, are a protective group for the nitrogen to which they are bound; CO_2R^{VI}; CO_2CH_2Ar; CO_2(9-fluorenylmethyl); $(CH_2)n_5$-$NHCO_2R^{VI}$; CH_2Ar; COAr; $(CH_2)n_5$-$NHCO_2CH_2Ar$; $(CH_2)n_5$-$NHCO_2$-(9-fluorenylmethyl).

R^{VI} is a straight or branched (C_1-C_6) alkyl;

R^{VII} is H or R^I-R^V;

Ar is a C_6-C_{12} aromatic residue, such as phenyl, optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from: halogen, hydroxy, C_1-C_5 alkyl, C_1-C_5 alkoxy, phenyl, cyano, nitro, -$NR^{VIII}R^{IX}$, where R^{VIII} and R^{IX}, which can be the same or different, are hydrogen, straight or branched (C_1-C_5) alkyl, or Ar is a heterocyclic group, said heterocyclic group containing at least one heteroatom selected from a nitrogen atom, optionally substituted with a (C_1-C_5) alkyl group, and/or oxygen and/or sulphur; said heterocycle can be substituted with one or more groups selected from halogen, hydroxy, C_1-C_5 alkyl, C_1-C_5 alkoxy, phenyl, cyano, nitro, -$NR^{VIII}R^{IX}$, where R^{VIII} and R^{IX}, which can be the same or different, are hydrogen, straight or branched (C_1-C_5) alkyl, the N_1-oxides, racemic mixtures, their individual enantiomers, their individual diastereoisomers, the *E* and *Z* forms, their mixtures, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

2. Compounds according to claim 1, in which the protective groups are bulky groups of a lipophilic nature.

3. Compounds according to claim 1, in which the protective groups are selected from the group consisting of: CO_2R^{VI}; CO_2CH_2Ar; CO_2-(9-fluorenylmethyl); $(CH_2)n_5$-$NHCO_2R^{VI}$; $(CH_2)n_5$-$NHCO_2CH_2Ar$; $(CH_2)n_5$-$NHCO_2$-(9-fluorenylmethyl), in which R^{VI} is as defined above.

4. Compounds according to claim 3, in which the protective groups are selected from the group consisting of tert-butoxycarbonyl; benzyloxycarbonyl; 9-fluorenylmethyloxycarbonyl.

5. Compounds according to any of claims 1-4, in which m is 0.

6. Compounds according to claim 5, selected from the group consisting of:

- tert-butylester of 20S-(4-{[3-(7-camptothecinylidene-amino)-propyl]-tert-butoxycarbonyl-amino}-butyl)-(3-tert-butoxycarbonylaminopropyl)-carbamic acid;
- tert-butylester of 20S-(4-{[3-(7-camptothecinylidene-amino)-propyl]-tert-butoxycarbonyl-amino}-butyl)-carbamic acid;
- tert-butylester of 20S-[3-(7-camptothecinylidene-amino)-butyl]-carbamic acid;
- 20S-7-[3-(N-tert-butoxycarbonylamino)propoxyimino-methyl]-camptothecin.

7. Compounds according to any of claims 1-4, in which m is 1.

8. Compounds according to claim 7, selected from the group consisting of:
- tert-butylester of 20RS-(4-{[3-(7-homocamptothecinylidene-amino)-propyl]-tert-butoxycarbonyl-amino}-butyl)-(3-tert-butoxyicarbonylaminopropyl)-carbamic acid;
- tert-butylester of 20RS-(4-{[3-(7-homocampto-thecinylidene-amino)-propyl]-tert-butoxycarbonyl-amino}-butyl)-carbamic acid;
- tert-butylester of 20RS-[3-(7-homocamptothecinylidene-amino)-butyl]-carbamic acid;
- 20R,S-7-[3-(N-tert-butoxycarbonylamino)propoxyimino-methyl]-homocamptothecin

9. Pharmaceutical composition containing at least one compound according to claims 1-8 as the active ingredient in admixture with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle and/or excipient.

10. Use of compounds according to claims 1-8 as medicaments.

11. Use of compounds according to claims 1-8 for the preparation of a medicament with topoisomerase 1 inhibiting activity.

12. Use according to claim 11 for the preparation of a medicament with anticancer activity.

13. Use according to claim 11 for the preparation of a medicament with antiparasite activity.

14. Use according to claim 11 for the preparation of a medicament with antiviral activity.